



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 83

February Session, 2012

* ____SB00083ENV__032212__ *

**AN ACT AUTHORIZING BOW AND ARROW HUNTING ON SUNDAY
UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 26-73 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):

3 Sunday shall be a closed season except for hunting deer with bow
4 and arrow and for the purpose of trapping under the provisions of this
5 chapter. The possession in the open air on Sunday of any implement
6 for hunting, except for bow and arrow, shall be prima facie evidence of
7 hunting in violation of the provisions of this section. No provision of
8 this section shall be construed so as to affect any provision of section
9 26-31, 26-48, 26-52 or 27-35. [or apply to the use of bow and arrow for
10 purposes other than hunting.] Artificially propagated birds designated
11 by the commissioner may be shot on Sundays on licensed private
12 shooting preserves subject to such regulations of the commissioner as
13 may apply to such private shooting preserves, provided permission so
14 to shoot has been obtained from the town or towns within which such
15 licensed private shooting preserves are located. Any person who hunts
16 deer on Sunday with bow and arrow pursuant to this section shall
17 conduct such hunting in accordance with and pursuant to the wildlife
18 management principles and practices established by the Commissioner
19 of Energy and Environmental Protection, have the written permission

20 of the private property owner where such hunting is conducted and
21 carry such written permission upon his or her person during the
22 hunting. No person shall hunt with bow and arrow on Sunday
23 pursuant to this section within forty yards of a blazed hiking trail.

24 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 26-86a of the general statutes is
25 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
26 *October 1, 2012*):

27 (a) The commissioner shall establish by regulation adopted in
28 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 standards for deer
29 management, and methods, regulated areas, bag limits, seasons and
30 permit eligibility for hunting deer with bow and arrow, muzzleloader
31 and shotgun, except that no such hunting shall be permitted on
32 Sunday by any means other than with bow and arrow pursuant to
33 section 26-73, as amended by this act. No person shall hunt, pursue,
34 wound or kill deer with a firearm without first obtaining a deer permit
35 from the commissioner in addition to the license required by section
36 26-27. Application for such permit shall be made on forms furnished
37 by the commissioner and containing such information as he may
38 require. Such permit shall be of a design prescribed by the
39 commissioner, shall contain such information and conditions as the
40 commissioner may require, and may be revoked for violation of any
41 provision of this chapter or regulations adopted pursuant thereto. As
42 used in this section, "muzzleloader" means a rifle or shotgun of at least
43 forty-five caliber, incapable of firing a self-contained cartridge, which
44 uses powder, a projectile, including, but not limited to, a standard
45 round ball, mini-balls, maxi-balls and Sabot bullets, and wadding
46 loaded separately at the muzzle end, and "rifle" means a long gun the
47 projectile of which is six millimeters or larger in diameter. The fee for a
48 firearms permit shall be nineteen dollars for residents of the state and
49 sixty-eight dollars for nonresidents, except that any nonresident who is
50 an active full-time member of the armed forces, as defined in section
51 27-103, may purchase a firearms permit for the same fee as is charged a
52 resident of the state. The commissioner shall issue, without fee, a
53 private land deer permit to the owner of ten or more acres of private

54 land and the husband or wife, parent, grandparent, sibling and any
 55 lineal descendant of such owner, provided no such owner, husband or
 56 wife, parent, grandparent, sibling or lineal descendant shall be issued
 57 more than one such permit per season. Such permit shall allow the use
 58 of a rifle, shotgun, muzzleloader or bow and arrow on such land from
 59 November first to December thirty-first, inclusive. Deer may be so
 60 hunted at such times and in such areas of such state-owned land as are
 61 designated by the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental
 62 Protection and on privately owned land with the signed consent of the
 63 landowner, on forms furnished by the department, and such signed
 64 consent shall be carried by any person when so hunting on private
 65 land. The owner of ten acres or more of private land may allow the use
 66 of a rifle to hunt deer on such land during the shotgun season. The
 67 commissioner shall determine, by regulation, the number of consent
 68 forms issued for any regulated area established by said commissioner.
 69 The commissioner shall provide for a fair and equitable random
 70 method for the selection of successful applicants who may obtain
 71 shotgun and muzzleloader permits for hunting deer on state lands.
 72 Any person whose name appears on more than one application for a
 73 shotgun permit or more than one application for a muzzleloader
 74 permit shall be disqualified from the selection process for such permit.
 75 No person shall hunt, pursue, wound or kill deer with a bow and
 76 arrow without first obtaining a bow and arrow permit pursuant to
 77 section 26-86c. "Bow and arrow", as used in this section and in section
 78 26-86c, means a bow with a draw weight of not less than forty pounds.
 79 The arrowhead shall have two or more blades and may not be less
 80 than seven-eighths of an inch at the widest point. No person shall
 81 carry firearms of any kind while hunting with a bow and arrow under
 82 this section and section 26-86c.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2012</i>	26-73
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2012</i>	26-86a(a)

ENV *Joint Favorable Subst.*